

BOOK NOTICES

R.J. CHINNOCK. 2007. **Eremophila and Allied Genera: A Monograph of the Myoporaceae.** (ISBN 978-1-877-05816-5, hbk). Rosenberg Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 6125, Dural Delivery Centre, NSW 2158, Australia. (**Orders:** www.isbs.com, 503-287-3093, 503-280-8832 fax). \$99.95, 672 pp., 335 color plates, 300 maps, 325 line drawings, 8½" × 11½".

The seven genera of Myoporaceae are described up, down, sideways, and in yet intangible dimensions. Treatments include formal taxonomy, detailed descriptions and maps, beautiful and informative line drawings, many interspersed color photos of plants and flowers, and notes on distribution, ecology, conservation status and relationships. Three new genera, 94 new species, and 37 new subspecies are described, and revised infrageneric classifications of *Eremophila* and *Myoporum* are proposed. All this is presented in such an elegant fashion that it invites being laid on the coffee table for recreational reading (not to belittle its academic value).

Contents: **1)** Introduction; **2)** History of the Myoporaceae; **3)** Morphology and Anatomy; **4)** Trichomes; **5)** Floral and Fruit Morphology; **6)** Palynology; **7)** Cytology and Cyto geography; **8)** Reproductive Biology; **9)** Distribution and Ecology; **10)** Phytochemistry and Toxicity; **11)** Traditional and Economic Uses; **12)** Horticultural Uses; **13)** Phylogeny and Relationships of the Myoporaceae; **14)** Taxonomic Treatment of the Family Myoporaceae

Five of the seven genera of Myoporaceae occur in Australia, where all but one of these, *Myoporum*, are endemic. *Bontia* and *Pentacoeilium* each contain a single species and are restricted to the Caribbean (plants have recently been found in Florida, near Miami) and to southern China, Japan, and northern Vietnam. *Myoporum* is largely Australian but species extend into the Pacific (including New Zealand and Hawaii) and one species to the Indian Ocean.

The high salt tolerance and drought resistance of Myoporaceae combined with attractive flowers has made this family, especially *Myoporum*, a popular horticultural introduction in drier regions around the world. Most species are shrubs with a variety of flower colour and form and flowering often is prolific. *Myoporum laetum* G. Forst. is naturalized and weedy in coastal areas of southern California.—Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A.

ALAN E. BESSETTE, WILLIAM C. ROODY, ARLEEN R. BESSETTE, AND DAIL L. DUNAWAY. 2007. **Mushrooms of the Southeastern United States.** (ISBN 978-0-8156-3112-5, hbk). Syracuse University Press, 621 Skytop Road, Suite 110, Syracuse, NY, 13244-5290, U.S.A.. (**Orders:** www.syracuseuniversitypress.syr.edu, 315-443-5534, 315-443-5545 fax). \$95.00, 400 pp., 517 color images, 1 map, 7¼" × 10¼".

More than 450 species are treated, with 517 color photographs (on 75 pages) and detailed descriptions, for an area that includes Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas east to West Virginia, Virginia, and southward to (and including) Florida. The authors note that the book provides a "relatively comprehensive guide" and that "the number of species described and illustrated in color is substantially higher than has previously appeared in any other single work devoted to the mushrooms of the southeastern United States. We provide cross-references to additional species occurring in the region that are illustrated in *Mushrooms of Northeastern North America*" (the companion volume, also Syracuse Univ. Press). For use by a general audience, the book emphasizes identification based primarily on macroscopic field characters but the authors note that it also provides necessary detail required by advanced students and professional mycologists.

There are lots of field guides and other books on mushrooms of eastern North America, some with large pictures and numerous species, but this one apparently is the ticket. On the other hand, local field guides remain indispensable. For example, from *Texas mushrooms: a field guide* (Metzler & Metzler 1992), there are 43 species (8 in *Amanita*) and 8 genera (*Lentaria*, *Oudemansiella*, *Phlogiotis*, *Sarcodon*, *Scutellina*, *Sphaerobolus*, *Steccherinum*, *Tremellodendron*) not accounted for in the index of Bessette et al. It's not easily apparent whether this is because of taxonomic/ nomenclatural issues or because the southern and western edges of Texas include the ranges of primarily western species (or a combination of both factors).—Guy Nesom, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A.